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FRANK A. MUNSEY

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THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1903.

An Attack Which Failed.

General Wood Uninjured by Defamers and Slanderees.

We are gratified to note the collapse of the campaign of defamation, begun coincidentally with his departure from this country, against Brig. Gen. Leonard Wood. Scarcely had General Wood started from Boston on his voyage to Manila when a fierce assault on his official and personal integrity was launched by accusers hitherto but cautiously and covertly hostile. General Wood's relations with "Captain Bellairs," the Associated Press representative in Cuba—in themselves involving neither scandal nor criminality—were made the basis of low and cowardly innuendoes. In General Wood's absence his friendliness to "Bellairs"—easily explicable and pardonable—was grotesquely tortured into a sinister alliance, whose object was the Governor General's aggrandizement at the expense of brother officers and rival colonial administrators.

A moment was chosen for the attack when General Wood was on the Atlantic and President Roosevelt was on his holiday visit to the Yellowstone. The defamers had a clear field—a propitious hour. But American common sense was not to be stampeded by stale and discredited accusations. The campaign of slander fell flat. We are no longer troubled by its noisome echoes.

In the face of the calumnies heaped on General Wood it is both proper and agreeable to put on record the tribute paid him in San Francisco the other day by President Roosevelt. Of his services in Cuba the President justly said:

He did the kind of governmental work which should be the guiding force of our people forever, and he came home to what? He came home to be thanked by a few, to be attacked by others—not to their credit—and to have as his real reward the sense that, though his work had been done at pecuniary sacrifice to him; that, though the demands upon him had been such as to eat into his private means, yet he had willingly and well done his duty as an American citizen, and reflected honor, fresh honor, upon the uniform of the United States Army.

General Wood's character and record are his own defense. Public confidence in him is too firmly established to be shaken by the inventions and innuendoes of bushwhacking foes.

Forest Protection.

Enormous Fire Losses Which Can and Must Be Avoided.

The average annual loss from forest fires in the United States is estimated by the Bureau of Forestry to be not less than \$25,000,000; and, this year, after an extraordinary dry spring, the loss, it is believed, will involve almost double that amount. Last year, within two weeks, timber and property valued at over \$12,000,000 were destroyed by forest fires in the States of Oregon and Washington alone. This year, the loss from fires in the Adirondack region will certainly reach \$10,000,000. And dispatches received within a day or two indicate that all along the Appalachian range fires are raging to an extent never before known.

When we consider that each family in the United States uses up on an average—this is the statement of the Government's forestry expert—the product of at least fifty acres of forest, and that the uses of wood are constantly increasing—wood pulp and cellulose constituting today alarming drains upon the resources of our forests—it will readily be seen that something must be done, and done promptly, to check the ravages of these fires which, in a majority of cases, are the result of gross negligence and carelessness.

The Bureau of Forestry has recently undertaken a thorough study of the fire problem, hoping to show that the losses incurred can be avoided. The whole country has been divided into districts, and each district assigned to an investigating agent. Local conditions will be observed and recommendations suited to the locality made. At the same time the co-operation of State wardens and railway

protective systems will be invited, in so far, at least, as either or both already exist. The outcome may be a set of valuable suggestions for forest fire legislation, both State and national, adapted to the needs of different localities.

The most important feature of forest protection, however, is the establishment of better methods of forest cutting and forest growing. At present very much the larger part of the tree as cut in the forest goes to waste, and no systematic attempt is made to replace it. The forest industry bids fair to become one of the greatest, if not the greatest, affecting the comfort and welfare of our people. Nearly \$600,000,000 is invested in the mere exploiting of the lumber business; and another \$900,000,000 is employed in manufactures for which the forests furnish the raw material. Surely the extent of these investments, if nothing else, should awaken the legislative mind to the importance of protecting and wisely administering the wealth with which Providence has covered our mountain sides. Or shall future generations be permitted to trace our decay, as some students of history have traced the decay of the races once peopling the plains of western Asia, to a disappearance of the forests?

Some Mixed Logic.

A Well-Meant But Slightly Obfuscated Twinkle.

Our twinkling contemporary, the "Evening Star," will pardon us if we should find it difficult to repress a smile over its naive proposition that "irregularities" in the local postoffice can permanently be cured only by the appointment of a Washington man as postmaster. While agreeing with our contemporary as to the desirability of having a resident of the city fill the place of postmaster, we do not think that it is essential for an efficient administration of the office. What is wanted is a man with some backbone, independence, and the ability to say "no," a man who is no man's man, who has no difficulty in telling right from wrong, whose record in the community in which he lives is unsullied—in short, an honest man. The fact that many of the "irregularities" now coming to light occurred while the office of local postmaster was held down by a Washington man, demonstrates the absurdity of our contemporary's contention.

Nor can we agree with the "Star" when it intimates that "irregularities" were encouraged by establishing the headquarters of the local postoffice in the same building with the Postoffice Department. Says our sapient contemporary:

The joint housing of the local and general offices is a type of the unduly close relations which exist between the two in administrative matters, making of the local office a mere annex or bureau of the department, to be manipulated, it would appear from Mr. Tulloch's charges, for the payment of political debts, and to be used for purposes impossible in any other city postoffice in the country.

If this means anything, it means that "evil associations corrupt good manners." Does our esteemed contemporary wish it to be understood that the presence under its own roof of Mr. Maehen's Rural Free Delivery Bureau established "unduly close relations" between the "Star" and the Postoffice Department? Or that that remarkable bureau became a "mere annex" to the "Star," "to be manipulated" . . . for the payment of political debts, simply because it occupied rooms in the "Star" building? Of course, our contemporary would reject with indignation—and rightly, too—such assumption on the part of the public. Yet it is about as logical as its own reasoning with regard to housing the local postoffice and the Postoffice Department in the same building.

An honest man is honest, and remains honest, wherever he may be, whether his office is incased in marble, granite, or plain brick. And while agreeing, we repeat, with our contemporary when it points out the desirability of having a Washington man for our postmaster, we yet should feel profoundly humiliated if even by innuendo only we were suspected of believing that outside of the District line an honest man to stop the "irregularities" in the postoffice could not be found. We think better of our country, and we should hate to see Washington sink to the level of an Abdera.

Who is the "Star's" candidate for postmaster, anyway?

Edwin Markham's fine peace poem comes a little late for the African war and a little too early to celebrate the Japanese-Russian one, but no one will repine, in this part of the world certainly, if it ultimately prove a prophesy.

The seats in a Nebraska theater collapsed during a performance of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." That classic drama has long had a reputation for bringing down the house.

We are indebted to Charles W. Johnson, of Minneapolis, former chief clerk of the United States Senate, for a complete set of the "Official Proceedings of

the Republican National Convention," from 1856 to 1900. Mr. Johnson has served as an official at many of these conventions, and has the authorization of the Republican national committee to compile and publish the record complete to date. The volumes he has issued are a useful and necessary addition to any political library.

The Field of Politics.

Sequel to Cleveland Boom.

The Metcalfe to Mack and the Mack to Metcalfe letters form the latest chapter in the Democratic Handbook of Harmony. They follow somewhat as a sequel to the Cleveland boom which suddenly became inflated and arose to such height as to attract wide attention about three weeks ago, but which is now rapidly descending, punctured by the third-term projectile, to say nothing of the injury inflicted upon it by the rocks thrown by good conservative Democrats. Editor Metcalfe, as the agent of Editor Bryan, singled out Editor Mack and hurled a series of questions at him about party policies, presumably because Editor Mack was quoted as saying something which was construed as favorable to Mr. Cleveland. Mr. Mack should not be charged with advising the Democratic party to renominate the ex-President. He could not do so and be consistent.

A Strong Bryanite.

In the last two Presidential campaigns he was one of the most conspicuous of New York Democrats to oppose the doctrines which Mr. Cleveland stood for, and to advocate those of which Mr. Bryan was and is the exponent. As national committeeman for New York he worked heroically in behalf of the ticket against great and overwhelming odds, and was loyal when thousands of his fellow-Democrats were deserting. His newspaper, the "Buffalo Times," was the only large paper in western New York which gave its undivided support to the Democratic ticket.

For Mr. Bryan and his friends to suspect him now of having gone over to the enemy is base ingratitude, to say the least. Mr. Mack even declares that he stands ready to support the Chicago and Kansas City platforms should they be adopted by the next national convention. Of course everybody knows they will not be, at least in several important particulars.

What Mr. Mack has done is in the interest of harmony, and that fact should be appreciated. He is willing to make some concessions, and that is what must be done by both sides if the party gets together next year. He suggests a compromise financial plank which, while it might be acceptable to a majority of Democrats who supported Bryan and are now anxious to drop free silver, would scarce meet with the approval of all good Democrats. It is that Congress be allowed to determine the ratio between gold and silver provided there should occur a shortage of gold which would make it necessary to resort to bimetalism.

Trouble Ahead.

The Metcalfe-Mack correspondence does one thing at any rate. It serves to emphasize the fact that the Democrats are likely to have a great deal more difficulty next year in determining what their platform shall be than in selecting a man to stand upon it.

This problem will rack the brains of the wisest counselors of the party. As the average Democrat is wont to express it, "there is abundance of good Presidential material," but the trouble will be in selecting suitable platform material. Consequently the Democrats would do well to defer for a time the question of candidates and take up the consideration of "paramount issues."

Pennypacker Not Wanted.

The Pennsylvania Republicans are becoming decidedly weary of Governor Pennypacker, and are endeavoring to have him consent to hand in his resignation and accept a position on the supreme bench of the State as soon as a vacancy can be made. But the governor balks, he wants to continue as governor, and declares that he is going to do so. During the campaign it was charged that the political ring which was responsible for his nomination was simply using him as a blind, and that he would retire and go upon the bench within a short time after his inauguration. The fact that efforts are being made to induce him to do this proves that the charge was correct.

The governor's action in signing the libel bill is the cause of the present dissatisfaction. It has brought down upon him the anathemas of both the friends and foes of the measure. Its advocates criticize him for not having signed the bill as soon as it passed the Legislature and came before him, and also for making a statement in defense of his action.

A Republican Measure.

In this connection the forthcoming Republican State convention will have a disagreeable task to perform in treating of this measure. A resolution condemning it is almost certain to be offered, and the problem is how to best smother it without causing trouble. If it goes to the committee on resolutions of course the organization will kill it, but there is nothing to prevent its being offered as an amendment in open convention. Then, of course, it would be necessary to defeat the resolution as the libel bill is strictly a Republican measure.

In recounting the achievements of the late Legislature, it is probable that the Salus-Grady law will not be one of the measures to which the party will "point with pride," as the late Ben Butler would say. It will doubtless be passed over without mention until some enemy of the act gets the floor to offer a resolution "viewing with alarm" the passage of this obnoxious measure, and then the convention must go on record either as endorsing or opposing the press "muzzler."

It augurs no good for the party, but nevertheless the Quiry program and ticket will go through all right, and it is quite probable that if the campaign of last fall were to be fought over again with a full knowledge of what has happened those Republicans who are now having so much to say about the libel law would again support Pennypacker and the entire Republican ticket. Such is party loyalty and machine loyalty in Pennsylvania.

COURTS AND CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD.

Baroness Burdett Coutts in Failing Health—Bulk of Her Fortune Will Go to Her Nephew, But Her American-Born Husband Will Be Well Provided For—Heir May Seek to Establish Claim to Long-Dormant Baronies.

Hopes to Be Realized.

Princess Charles of Denmark, youngest daughter of King Edward, and whose childlessness since her marriage seven years ago has been a source of considerable sorrow to herself, to her popular young husband, and to her parents, is at length about to have her hopes fulfilled, and expects to become a mother during the latter portion of the summer. While the news is not yet officially announced, it is pretty generally known in London, and until the happy event takes place the princess will remain very quietly at Appleton House, her place near Sandringham. The princess has been very delicate for a considerable time past, and it is anticipated that the birth of a child will restore her to complete health, not only in a physical sense, but also in regard to her nervous system. She is the most popular and sprightly of the King's daughters, as well as his particular favorite, rejoices in the nickname of "Harry," among her family circle, and is distinguished by a certain dainty coquetry which is entirely lacking in her sisters.

In Failing Health.

Baroness Burdett Coutts has just entered upon her nineteenth year, and although she continues her good works, yet she has withdrawn almost entirely from society and from the public. In fact, she has become so frail that her death cannot be long delayed. At her demise her peerage will become extinct, and while most of her personal belongings and savings will go to her American-born husband, who is forty years her junior, and upon whom she settled an annuity of \$250,000 per annum on the wedding day, the bulk of her fortune will go to her nephew, the only son of her elder sister, Mrs. Money Coutts, who died a few years ago at the age of ninety-four as the widow of the Rev. James D. Money.

Lady Burdett Coutts' nephew, who is a member of the bar, is by no means in his aunt's good graces, and if he is destined to inherit the bulk of her immense fortune it is altogether independently of her wishes. Lady Burdett Coutts and her elder sister got along pretty well together until the former's marriage in 1881, a union which the elder of the two old women opposed in the most flat-footed manner, subjecting the baroness to such exceedingly plain speaking concerning the affair that the latter never forgave her.

The Burdett Coutts Fortune.

It is an odd story how this colossal fortune came to Lady Burdett Coutts, and why it should have come to her rather than to her elder sisters. Her father was Sir Francis Burdett, the well-known member of parliament for the borough of Westminster, and the last person to be imprisoned in the

Tower of London for political causes.

Sir Francis married Sophia, a daughter of Thomas Coutts, the London banker, who was therefore the grandfather of both Lady Burdett Coutts and Mrs. Money Coutts. Old Tom Coutts, whose own mother had been a scullery maid of the name of Elizabeth Starky, after losing his first wife, the mother of Sophia Coutts, contracted a second marriage with Miss Harriet Mellon, a well-known actress, to whom on dying he bequeathed his entire fortune, making no provision for his daughters or for his grandchildren.

Some time after his demise the widowed Mrs. Coutts, the ex-actress, married the Duke of St. Albans. She seems, however, to have resented the manner in which she was treated by the family of her second husband, and by his kinsfolks, who offended her by the undisguised ridicule and contempt which they manifested for her social solecisms, and for her quaint extravagances of speech. At her death it was found that she had left very penny of the fortune which she had inherited from Tom Coutts, her first husband, to young Angela Burdett, her step-granddaughter, then a girl of twenty-three, who had become a great favorite of hers.

The duchess bequeathed this fortune to Angela Burdett on the understanding that she should assume the name of Coutts in addition to her own, and that in the event of her death without issue it should go to one of her elder sisters, Clara Burdett, who was likewise unmarried at the time.

Money for a Poet.

It is by virtue of this will of Harriet Duchess of St. Albans that the bulk of the fortune of Lady Burdett Coutts will at her death come to her nephew, Francis Burdett Money Coutts, a man of about fifty years of age, educated at Eton and at Cambridge, and who has a rather heavy gift of poetry, among his productions being "The Mystery of Godliness," and "The Revelation of St. Love the Divine."

It is probable that on succeeding to the Coutts property he will take steps to establish his claim to the exceedingly ancient and long dormant baronies of Scales and of Latimer, to which his mother and her elder sister, Mrs. Trevanion, were co-heiresses with Lady Burdett Coutts. In such cases it is usual to permit a peerage to remain dormant until all the co-heiresses save one have died, and then the peerage is only called out of abeyance in the event of the deceased co-heiresses having left no children.

Some astonishment was aroused at the time of the elevation of Angela Burdett Coutts to the peerage, in her own right, some thirty years ago, that she should not have assumed the title of Baroness Latimer, or of Lady Scales, but,

of course, this would have been strenuously opposed by her elder sister, Mrs. Money Coutts, and by the latter's son, Francis Money Coutts, who is now a married man with a family of children.

Tom Coutts' Daughters.

Let me add that old Tom Coutts, in addition to his daughter Sophia, who married Sir Francis Burdett, and who is the mother of Lady Burdett Coutts, had two other daughters, one of whom married Lord Bute and the other Lord Gifford. Of the first of these two marriages—that is to say, of the one with Lord Bute—no descendants remain. But the present Lord North is, like Money Coutts, a great-grandson of old Tom Coutts, the banker, and a great-great-grandson therefore of Elizabeth Starky, the scullery maid.

The story of Lady Burdett Coutts' American husband has been so often related in these columns that anything more than a brief reference thereto would be superfluous. He was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., of a father who was raised at Plymouth, Mass., and of a mother who was a daughter of John K. Ashmead, of Philadelphia, a descendant of Theodore Lehman, who was a companion of William Penn. The early portion of his education he received in this country with his brother, Ellis, and then went to England and to Oxford, where they graduated in due course. Ellis, the elder of the two, died a few years ago, as a rather discredited politician of a minor caliber, who had been knighted by way of consoling him for not receiving any post, even a small one, on the reconstitution of Lord Salisbury's last administration. I may add that he died a bankrupt, in spite of the wealth of his younger brother.

Married Her Patient.

The latter, and by far the better looking of the two, shortly after leaving Oxford, obtained employment as delegate of a committee formed by the Dukes of Sutherland and Westminster and the Baroness Burdett Coutts for the relief of the sick and wounded during the latter portion of the Turkish war with Russia in 1877. On his return he fell dangerously ill from the effects of exposure and the hardships which he had undergone in the orient, was nursed back to health by Lady Burdett Coutts, who became so infatuated with her patient that she married him, the match giving rise to much popular dissatisfaction on account of the disparity of years and of fortune, and even of downright hostility on the part of many of the friends and relatives of the baroness, who had until that time been without exception the most popular and universally beloved woman in London because of her boundless charities, as a reward for which she was created a peeress in her own right in 1871.

MARQUISE DE FONTENAY.

NO FUNDS IN SIGHT TO PAVE AT 25TH AND E STS.

Would Cost \$50,000 to Complete Job at New Laboratory.

R. B. Armstrong, Acting Secretary of the Treasury, recently wrote to the District Commissioners calling attention to the highway conditions near the intersection of E and Twenty-fifth Streets northwest. He said the new building for the hygienic laboratory, Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, had recently been completed there, and it was impossible to finish the approaches until the streets were properly graded and paved. Mr. Armstrong requested the Commissioners to expedite the work as much as possible.

Investigation was made, plats of the streets drawn, and estimates of the cost computed. With these before him, the Engineer Commissioner has offered suggestions to meet the difficulties enumerated in the letter of the Acting Secretary. He said the new building had been erected on the surface of the site, about forty feet above the present elevation of the intersection of the streets. The approved grades of the streets would require a cut of sixteen feet at this point to connect with adjoining streets when improved. This condition of grades made it practically impossible to enter the building at that point.

Colonel Biddle said the best means of approach to the building seemed to be through the roadway of the Naval Museum, from Twenty-third and E Streets, or by the construction of a new roadway from Twenty-fourth and E Streets. The first-named street was paved to the Naval Observatory entrance and Twenty-fourth Street, from E to F, including the intersection of E Street. The estimated cost of grading and paving Twenty-fifth and E Streets, as requested, would be \$50,000, which would have to be carried by a special appropriation. It could not be done until Congress had acted, or before a year from July 1, 1903. The large cost compared with the small comparative benefit would not seem to justify the expenditure at the present time. The requested improvement would, however, be considered in making up the estimates for the next fiscal year.

Colonel Biddle suggested the sending to Mr. Armstrong of the plats and street plans, and the pledging of the Commissioners to assist the Treasury Department all that was possible under the circumstances. Colonel Biddle suggested that Mr. Armstrong should communicate with the Commissioners when any plan of approaches to the building should be determined upon, which the board would aid as far as possible.

KEEN SENSE OF JUSTICE.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., May 21.—Two farmers drawn on the jury stopped the machinery of the court yesterday. One, anxious about his crops, waited till the clouds rewarded him with rain; the other was detained talking politics in a lawyer's office.

RAILROAD AN ELECTRIC "PROVING GROUND" NOW

Speed of Fifty Miles an Hour on the Surface.

SCRANTON, Pa., May 21.—Unique in railroads, the new electric line of the Lackawanna and Wyoming Valley Company was opened this morning between Scranton and Pittston.

The construction and development of the road have been conducted with a good deal of secrecy, but the fact that the Westinghouse interests are largely concerned in the project confirms the belief that, in addition to doing a regular passenger and freight traffic, the "Laurel line," as it is known, will serve to demonstrate the superiority of electricity to steam.

The enormous expenditure in building and equipping the road would indicate that it is to be used largely as a "proving ground," in which the practical value of electric energy as applied through the third rail will be shown and given a thorough test. It is the belief of electricians and some railroad men that in the near future electricity will supersede steam on all the great railroads of the country, and the working of the "Laurel line" will be watched with special interest.

It is admitted that a speed of fifty miles an hour can be made easily, but engineers say that a much higher speed can be developed if desired. Electric power is furnished through the third rail system.

FLORA OF WEST INDIES FOR NATIONAL MUSEUM

William R. Maxon, aide in cryptogamic botany at the National Museum, has returned from a stay of five weeks in the island of Jamaica, where he went to make a general collection of the flowering plants. Mr. Maxon joined Dr. L. M. Underwood of Columbia University, who had been in the West Indies since December, and they worked together.

Dr. Maxon spent most of his time in the mountain country, especially on and around Blue Mountain, the highest peak in the island. He and Dr. Underwood "took to the brush," straying far from the roads and camping in woods. He collected 1,350 species of plants, besides many duplicates. The collection is particularly strong in ferns, which grow in greater variety in Jamaica than in any other country of the same size.

Mr. Maxon also brought back several large anthers. All of the material collected by him is intended to round out the Jamaica collection in the National Museum, although some of the duplicates may be traded.

TO WED AMERICAN.

LONDON, May 20.—Lord Monson, honorary attaché to the British embassy at Paris, will shortly marry Mrs. Turner, daughter of Gen. Roy Stone, of the United States Army.

LOOKING FOR TIMBER FOR THE PLATFORM

Prominent Democrats Discussing Financial Plank.

Two more candidates for the Presidency and a discussion of a probable platform have been injected into the Democratic situation in the last twenty-four hours, while a receptive candidate for the Vice Presidency arrived in the city.

The arrival is Benton McMillin, of Tennessee, former Representative in Congress and governor, who is at the New Willard. The Presidential candidates are Judge Walter Clark, of North Carolina, who is said to have the endorsement of William Jennings Bryan, and Adlai Stevenson, former Vice President of the United States.

The platform controversy has been brought about by an exchange of letters between Norman E. Mack, of Buffalo, a member of the Democratic national executive committee, and Richard L. Metcalfe, an editor of Omaha, who is a close personal friend of Mr. Bryan.

The point at issue in the discussion seems to be if it would not be a good idea to draw up a platform in which the troublesome financial plank be left out. Mr. Metcalfe brought matters to this stage by inquiring of Mr. Mack if such action were taken would it not avoid incurring the displeasure evinced at the last election by the followers of Mr. Cleveland. Mr. Mack is quoted as replying:

"While I have been a firm believer in upholding the principles enunciated in the Chicago and Kansas City platforms, and would support those principles if contained in the next platform, it seems to me that the adherents of those two platforms could meet the adherents of the Indianapolis platform on a plank which would provide that Congress exercise the function of determining from time to time the proper ratio to be established between the two metals as their respective values fluctuate according to the law of supply and demand."

Several others of the vital issues of the party are involved in the interchange of letters, and on the trust question Mr. Mack says the Democratic attitude must not be disturbed. He demands proper tariff reform, as a protection against the monopolies. He also registers a protest against government by injunction, and closes by suggesting that a candidate be selected who will subscribe to the tenets of both factions—provided there be such a phenomenon in existence.

According to reports, Senator Blackburn of Kentucky is the man who brought the name of Judge Clark to the attention of Mr. Bryan, and obtained that leader's endorsement of the North Carolinian. This is alleged to have taken place while Mr. Bryan was in Washington. Mr. Bryan is reported as having asked Senator Gorman and several others who they thought would make the strongest candidate.

The names of Hill, Olney, Gorman, and Cleveland were all canvassed, and all were rejected by Mr. Bryan. Then Senator Blackburn was asked for his view, and he mentioned Judge Clark, who at once pleased Mr. Bryan. The name of Mr. Stevenson came up in the same way and no particular objection developed to him.

Mr. McMillin is on his way home from a visit to New York. In discussing the Republican situation in the Empire State he takes an opposite view to those who have already spoken, and says that both Democrats and Republicans are against President Roosevelt, and would like to see him defeated.

SHARP TRICK PLAYED BY AN ENGLISH FIRM

Prevented by This Government From Getting Patent in Japan.

There has just been closed by the Interior Department an unusual incident which shows the care with which Uncle Sam looks after the interests of his citizens in other countries. It related to the effort of an English firm to imitate certain pens, which have been patented in this country, and to obtain a patent on them in Japan.

A. E. Buck, United States minister at Tokyo, reported to Secretary Hay that an English firm was manufacturing pens in imitation of pens manufactured by an American firm. The imitations were sold below the price of the American product, and the Englishmen had applied to the Japanese authorities for a patent, the granting of which would have shut the American pens out of the Japanese market entirely.

Mr. Buck heard of the matter through Maruya & Co., a Japanese firm of stationers, who wanted to obtain a certificate of the American citizenship of the American manufacturers, with power of attorney to go before the Japanese patent office, cancel the application of the Englishmen and have the rights secured for the Americans.

Secretary Hay turned the matter over to Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock, who sent it to the Patent Office, where it was found that the pen was an American invention, but was manufactured in England. Francis Forbes, a patent attorney in New York, was found to have represented the company on previous occasions. He was notified and has written Acting Secretary of the Interior Thomas Ryan that he took steps which have just resulted in the cancellation of the English claim for a Japanese patent and the granting of one to the American firm.

ANTI-TRUST REFINERY OPENS DEPARTMENT

WAUKESHA, Ill., May 21.—The new Warner anti-trust sugar refinery has opened its starch department, and is getting its glucose department in shape to operate in the fall.

Ground was broken yesterday by the Charles Glindole Company, of Chicago, for the glucose refining building. It will be seven stories high, and will cost \$50,000. This is one of the seven new buildings to be erected in the ensuing months at a cost of \$150,000.

TO KEEP CLOSE WATCH ON THE B. & O. TRESTLE

The District Commissioners have directed that the agreement forwarded by counsel of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company for the construction of a trestle to support the water main at Twenty-eighth and Emporia Streets, Avalon, D. C., be properly executed and returned to the company.

The agreement permits the District authorities to enter upon the property of the company and to construct the proposed trestle to carry the municipal water main over the tracks of the company at that point. The construction is a part of the plan to extend the water service in that part of the District.